



MAKAH TRIBE

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June 4, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: The Makah Tribe *ex parte* meetings (WC Docket Nos. 10-90; 13-184; 09-197; 03-109; 11-42; CC Docket Nos. 02-6; 96-45; 02-60; GN Docket No. 13-5; WT Docket No. 11-40; CG Docket No. 11-41)

Dear Secretary Dortch,

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, governing permit-but-disclose proceedings, this letter is to document three *ex parte* meetings that have occurred between the Makah Tribe and the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau's Office of Native Affairs (ONAP) to discuss matters relating to the universal service programs.

On Wednesday, March 20, 2014, at the 2014 Reservation Economic Summit (RES) held in Las Vegas, the Makah Tribal Chairman, TJ Greene, Vice-Chairman Greig Arnold, and Michelle Parkin, Larry Murner, Bud Denney, participated in two consultation meetings with Geoffrey Blackwell, Irene Flannery, and Rebekah Douglas of ONAP. Specifically, the consultation session involved discussions centering on current service levels and prioritizing broadband and telephone service to the remote Tribal community located in Neah Bay, Washington. The Makah Tribe expressed the need for high-speed and modern telecommunications for its schools, healthcare facilities and residents. Discussions also included the Tribe's experience with Century Link as its carrier, concerns with quality and availability of service, speed issues and the need for additional speed, customer service concerns, recent negotiations regarding build out and lease agreements, and the level of compliance with the Tribal Engagement Obligation.

Subsequently, on May 6, 2014, at the 2014 Mid-Year Convention of Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), Crystal Hottowe (Community Planning & Economic Development Department) and Betsy Buckingham (Health Director) of the Makah Tribe met with Geoffrey Blackwell and Rebekah Douglas of ONAP regarding the universal service programs, including E-rate, Lifeline, Rural Health Care, and the Connect America Fund. Discussions centered on the Tribe's desire to be included in potential E-rate and Technology Transitions experiments and projects. In addition, a further status update was provided on the Tribe's current and future plans for obtaining technology infrastructure and negotiations with CenturyLink.

Lastly, on May 22, 2014, the Makah Tribe represented by Crystal Hottowe, Bud Denney, Paul Pacelli, and Larry Murner conducted a conference call with the Office of Native Affairs and Policy (Irene Flannery and Rebekah Douglas). Topics of this meeting included several universal service matters, including the desire and requirements for becoming an ETC, the eligibility of voice and broadband services in the E-rate program, deployment concerns regarding CAF funding; and the Tribal Engagement Obligation.

The Makah Tribe expressed its interest in continued consultation with the Commission and ONAP.

Respectfully,

The Makah Tribe